

III. REMARKS

The claims have been rewritten in order to use language more acceptable to US practice and to overcome the other objections raised by the Examiner. Also, new claims 41 to 45 are added.

Regarding paragraph 9 of the Office Action, the Examiner's attention is directed to the disclosure at page 6, lines 10 to 13 of the specification. The focusing or directing of streams of coating composition by electronic and magnetic means is well known in the ink-jet and electrophotographic fields.

Regarding paragraph 11, the symbol of licensed manufacture might be any predetermined symbol such as a logo, a patent number or the word "licensed", etc.

Regarding paragraph 12, different areas of the identifier can be visible and other areas can be invisible to the naked eye, see the present specification at page 8, lines 31-36.

Regarding paragraph 18, the Examiner's attention is directed to the specification, such as page 9, lines 1 to 5. The art is well aware of phosphorescent and fluorescent chemical materials which are luminous. The objection is not understood.

The objection in paragraph 20 is overcome by the amendment to claim 25 in which the term "hologram" is replaced with the synonymous phrase "--three-dimensional space effect--", as disclosed at page 7, lines 35-36. Producing said effect by means of superposed layers is well understood by those skilled in the art.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the §102 and §103 rejections based upon the Dobrowolski et al. reference, EP0181770A2, is respectfully requested in view of the amendments to the claims and for the following reasons.

The reference discloses a method for forming an interference effect by applying superposed coatings having different spectral reflectance and transmittance properties, one layer being an optical interference layer and one layer being an electromagnetic radiation-absorbing layer which is removed in predetermined areas to provide areas having a different reflectance and transmittance than the remainder of said layer to be distinguishable at a particular light angle.

This differs critically from the present method and product which employs at least two different interference effects on different areas of a support to produce areas having different interference effects at the same wavelength of visible light, without any requirement for removing any portions of optical coatings. One or more coatings may be printed through a mask or aligning tray to provide a design, pattern or indicia on areas of said support, over or under areas of the other coatings, whereby some areas of the substrate are covered by superposed coatings and other areas are covered by only the printed coating. Successive layers may be applied or printed thereover to produce additional interference phenomena in addition to the contrasting interference effects provided by uncoated areas of the substrate. No removal of any essential areas of the coatings is required.


According to the preferred embodiment of the invention, the first and second areas of the substrate are coated or treated

areas which produce in one of said areas an open identifier such as a trademark or tradename which is visible to the naked eye while producing in the other area a protected identifier such as the word "licensed" or a patent number, which is invisible to the naked eye but is visible under photon radiation or other radiation. This enables the manufacturer to detect counterfeit, unlicensed or otherwise unauthorized products, as disclosed at page 8, line 31, to page 9, line 5 of the specification.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$1104.00 is enclosed for a three-month extension of time and additional claim fees. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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17 March 2003
Date

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